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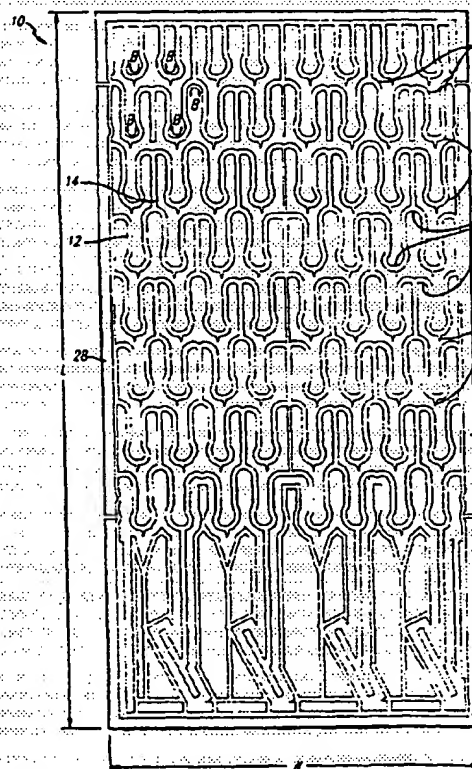
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(54) **Multi-anchor stent**

(57) The intravascular multi-anchor stent includes a plurality of cylindrical elements that are independently expandable in the radial direction and that are interconnected so as to be generally aligned on a common longitudinal axis, and a plurality of barbs along the entire circumference of the stent that face outwardly when the stent is in an expanded condition. A plurality of connecting elements are provided for interconnecting only the cylindrical elements that are adjacent to each other so that the stent, when expanded in the radial direction, retains its overall length without appreciable shortening.

FIG. 1





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EUROPEAN SEARCH REPORT

Application Number
EP 96 30 1818

DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category	Citation of document with indication, where appropriate, of relevant passages	Relevant to claim	CLASSIFICATION OF THE APPLICATION (Int.Cl.6)
X	US-A-5 397 355 (M.L. MARIN ET AL.) * the whole document *	1,3,8	A61F2/06
A	US-A-3 334 629 (B.D. COHN) * figures *	2,4,8,9	
A	EP-A-0 448 891 (J.-M. LEFEBVRE) * abstract; figures *	2,4,6,8	
A	EP-A-0 565 395 (CELSA LG) * figures 1-3 *	2,4,6	
A	EP-A-0 540 290 (ADVANCED CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS, INC.)		
P, X	EP-A-0 688 544 (ENDOVASCULAR TECHNOLOGIES, INC.) * figures 2,9,10 *	1,2,4	
E	EP-A-0 712 614 (ADVANCED CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS, INC.) * the whole document *	1,8	
E	EP-A-0 732 088 (ADVANCED CARDIOVASCULAR SYSTEMS, INC.)	1,3	
			TECHNICAL FIELDS SEARCHED (Int.Cl.6)
			A61F
The present search report has been drawn up for all claims			
Place of search		Date of completion of the search	Examiner
THE HAGUE		11 December 1996	Wolf, C
CATEGORY OF CITED DOCUMENTS			
<p>X : particularly relevant if taken alone Y : particularly relevant if combined with another document of the same category A : technological background O : non-written disclosure P : intermediate document</p>			
<p>T : theory or principle underlying the invention F : earlier patent document, but published on, or after the filing date D : document cited in the application L : document cited for other reasons & : member of the same patent family, corresponding document</p>			

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